



West Malling Church of England Primary School and The McGinty Language Centre



NEWSLETTER 21st March 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

The school has been a sea of colour today as we have done our bit for Red Nose Day 2025. There has been lots of red on display, of course, but also a riot of other colours as everyone has contributed to raising money for this very worthwhile annual cause. Mrs White and the School Council also led lunchtime activities and a quiz which were enjoyed by everyone that took part – thank you all for your enthusiasm.

On Monday this week Mrs Hillsdon's daughter, Esther, came into school for the day to share information with us about her upcoming trip to Kenya. We enjoyed learning a little bit about the country from her, and it was fascinating hearing about the school and community she will be helping later this year. A separate letter went home in the week letting you know about our planned Kenya Day on Monday 31st March. The children are invited to come into school wearing the colours of the Kenyan flag (red, white, green and black) and there will also be various small items of jewellery on sale in the playground at the end of the day. All money raised will go towards the project Esther is involved in, helping to supply sinks to the school to enable the girls to improve the facilities available to wash their clothes.

On a similar theme of supporting others, Jacob in Mulberry has set himself the challenge of climbing Mount Snowdon in Wales at Easter to raise money for the Heart of Kent Hospice. We are regular supporters of the Hospice and if you would like to support Jacob in his amazing efforts the link to his Just Giving page is below. Good luck, Jacob!

<https://www.justgiving.com/page/jacob-wrightson>

On Thursday afternoon the children from Daisy Class headed down to Manor Park to explore the woods in connection with their English and geography learning. They explored what the park was used for, including practising their speaking and listening skills by interviewing members of the public, and how we could look after and protect nature. Of course, it was made even better by the fact the sun was shining!

A final bit of sporting news this week as our football team played their second league match this year, beating Offham 4-0. They coped very well with a tricky pitch and passed the ball around brilliantly to create chances for Boaz to score two goals, and one each for Charlie and Leo. Well done all of you, and now we look forward to next week's game against Platt.

A reminder that school is closed to the children on Monday for an INSET Day as we have specialists in school to talk to us about enhancing our practice further for our learners with autism. So, enjoy the slightly longer weekend, and I look forward to seeing you all again on Tuesday.

Very best wishes for the weekend.

Mr Rye

WHAT'S ON?

Monday 24th March

INSET day – school closed

w/c Tuesday 25th March

ALL clubs have now finished for Term 4, with the exception of Tennis Club

Tuesday 25th & Wednesday 26th March

PTFA Mother's Day Tea – please see flyer sent with this newsletter

Thursday 27th March

Year 3 assembly at 9am - parents are invited to come along and share in the children's learning

Tennis Club IS on today

The return Walking Bus will not be operating today

w/c Monday 31st March

NO CLUBS RUNNING THIS WEEK

Monday 31st March

Kenya Day – please see letter sent home on 17th March for further details

Last swimming session for Year 4

Tuesday 1st April

Year R Hearing and Vision screening

Wednesday 2nd April

Church service at St Mary's at 9.15am (approx.). Parents welcome to join us

Friday 4th April

Last day of Term 4

Achievers of the Week

YEAR	NAME	Commended for
Year R	Primrose	For her engagement with her learning
Year 1	Alfie	For his perseverance with his learning
Year 2	Aiden	For his enthusiasm and independence with his DT
Year 3	Finley	For having a great week
Year 4	Kimaya	For always trying to up-level her vocabulary
Year 5	Sridhanya	For all round excellence & effort
Year 6	Tommy M	For his excellent recall of facts

Walking Bus

There will be **NO** return bus on Thursday 27th March

Demelza Kent Easter Trail & Craft Fair Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th April

The hospice gardens will be beautifully decorated for a whimsical Easter trail, where families can hunt for hidden eggs, unscramble a secret word, and win a prize! There will also be a craft tent, exciting stalls, delicious refreshments from local vendors, and a chance to hear Sittingbourne's 106.9 SFM broadcasting live. All funds raised will support Demelza's vital work in caring for children and families who need it most.

ATTENDANCE & PUNCTUALITY

THIS WEEK'S ATTENDANCE:

CLASS	Attendance
Year R	92.1%
Year 1	95.5%
Year 2	93.6%
Year 3	98.5%
Year 4	91%
Year 5	95.6%
Year 6	96.3%

Whole School Attendance

94.7%

Yearly attendance to date:

94.2%

The children in Year 3 have the been in school the most this week.



Well done Year 3!



PUNCTUALITY PANDA

CLASS	% Arrived on time
Year R	94.7%
Year 1	98.2%
Year 2	97%
Year 3	93.1%
Year 4	100%
Year 5	95.9%
Year 6	99.3%

Well done Year 4 – you arrived on time every day this week! 😊

Safeguarding

As a school we believe that safeguarding is not only about protecting children and young people from abuse and neglect, but also their families too. It is our intention, therefore, to support families by signposting them to universal services which may assist families when they are facing difficulties themselves. For reference, our Safeguarding Team is: Mr David Rye (DSL), Mrs Jo White (Deputy DSL), Mrs Gemma Hawken (Deputy DSL) & Mrs Sophie Ogden (Deputy DSL) and we are the people you should contact should you have any safeguarding concerns.

With more than two billion active users, WhatsApp is the world's most popular messaging service. Please take a few moments to read the attached guidance, supporting parents with helpful information and advice.